

Weekly Status and Information Report: Week of July 9 - 13, 2007

Tenant Outreach Program (Ward 6 and City Wide). On July 11, CSAFE facilitated a community meeting with residents of 7333 and 7401 New Hampshire Avenue. Representatives from the Takoma Park Police, the City's Landlord-Tenant Office, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning, Impact Silver Spring, the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office, and the Silver Spring Regional Center were in attendance. Residents had the opportunity to discuss community concerns including crime, security, landlord-tenant relations, and code violations. Both Landlord-Tenant and Police staff participated in the meeting. Residents discussed issues of concern including crime, security, landlord-tenant relations, and code violations. *(Housing and Community Development, Police)*

Rent Stabilization - Proposed Ordinance Changes (City Wide). Landlord-Tenant staff and community organizer Rozanne Look met with members of the Tenant/Tenant Association Rent Stabilization Committee on July 5 and July 11 to review proposed changes in the rent stabilization law. Committee members are interested in testifying at the public hearing, scheduled for Monday, July 16. Notices of the upcoming public hearing were distributed to local tenants, tenant associations and landlords. *(Housing and Community Development)*

New Hampshire Avenue Property Owner Tour (Wards 2, 3, & 6). On behalf of the City, Mayor Porter and City Manager Matthews welcomed a full house of New Hampshire Avenue property owners and their representatives (both Montgomery and Prince George's County) at an informational meeting on July 11 organized by the Housing and Community Development Department. Planning staff presented information on the Corridor and ongoing projects, and began the discussion of how property owners could benefit from working towards a shared vision for the area. A tour of the corridor followed the presentation. *(Housing and Community Development)*

New Hampshire Avenue Charette, August 14 - 20, Save the Dates (Wards 2 & 3). A schedule has been established for the New Hampshire Avenue Charette (to include the properties along New Hampshire Avenue between Eastern Avenue and Sligo Creek Parkway). The charette will consist of four to five public meetings beginning with a workshop on August 14. Various concepts will be developed for community feedback. The charette will conclude with a final presentation on August 20. The charette team will be working onsite during that week. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Eat Takoma (City Wide): An updated version of Eat Takoma, a pocket sized guide to Takoma Park area restaurants and grocery stores with an international focus, is now available. For the first time there are sufficient copies to distribute the guide at local stores and restaurants in addition to festivals and other special events. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Commercial Area Beautification Presentation (Ward 6): Senior Planner Ilona Blanchard gave a presentation to the Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority on beautification, crime prevention through environmental design, and how to increase the bottom line for both businesses and property owners by attracting outside area users through amenities, visibility and eyes on the street. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Gilbert & Wood - Urciolo Development (Ward 1 & 3). The hearing date for this project, originally scheduled for July 26, has been delayed to provide additional time for Park and Planning staff to review supplemental information requested of the applicant prior to developing their report. The site plan now features two additional handicapped parking spaces and one less parking space overall. Information on the new hearing date will be provided as it becomes available. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Neighborhood Traffic Study (Wards 2, 3 and 6). The traffic studies of the New Hampshire Gardens, Long Branch - Sligo, and Pinecrest neighborhoods have been completed and are being translated prior to distribution to neighborhood residents. The studies will be distributed in mid-August. The results of the studies and the recommendations of the consultant will be presented to the Council in early September. *(Housing and Community Development)*

New Exhibit at the Community Center (City Wide). "The Car: a celebration of the automobile" is the featured exhibit at the Community Center. The exhibit includes photography by Rob Rudick and linocuts by Norman Strike. A reception honoring the artists is scheduled for Friday, July 27 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Atrium Lobby. The exhibit can be viewed throughout the months of July and August. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Open Poetry Reading , Thursday July 19 (City Wide). This month's Poetry Reading, scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday July 19, will feature the work of local poets. Poets wishing to read their work that night are encouraged to participate. The event is free and open to the public. For more information on how you can participate, please contact the Arts and Humanities Commission at 301-891-7224 or by email at ahc@takomagov.org *(Housing and Community Development)*

Election Ballot Counting Technology Demonstration (City Wide). The City's Board of Elections has arranged to have a vendor demonstrate their paper ballot counting technology on Tuesday, July 31, at 7:00 p.m. The demonstration will be held in the Azalea Room of the Community Center. It is open to the public. Contact Jessie Carpenter at 301-891-7267 or by email at clerk@takomagov.org for more information. *(City Clerk)*

Police Chief's Meetings. On July 10, Chief Ricucci met with Commander Don Johnson (MCPD, Silver Spring District Commander) and Major Kevin Davis (PGPD Hyattsville District Commander) for a CSAFE meeting in College Park. On July 12, Chief Ricucci met with Pastor Julius Grey-Coker of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Takoma Park, regarding noise complaints. *(Police)*

Traffic Enforcement (City Wide). Officers conducted at least 88 traffic stops this week resulting in citations. Three vehicles were impounded. *(Police)*

Planning for 2007 Night Out. CSAFE will be coordinating a multi-jurisdictional National Night Out event to be held on Tuesday, August 7. A planning meeting was held on July 12. In addition to CSAFE staff, Landlord-Tenant staff member Moses Wilds, Jr. attended the meeting. The Landlord-Tenant Office staff plans to have an information table at this event and will be

available to answer questions. The focus of the event will be crime prevention and safety education. Please contact CSAFE at 301-439-0971 or 301-439-0972 if you would like to get involved. (*Police, Housing and Community Development*)

Victory Tower Community Meeting (Ward 1). The Recreation Director attended a community meeting at the Victory Tower apartments this week. Debra Haiduven gave a short presentation outlining the Recreation Department program and services available to them. She also addressed the group's questions and got some great program ideas from the enthusiastic gathering. (*Recreation*)

Auditorium Renovation Study. The Auditorium Committee met with consultants from MTFA Architecture to review draft results of the feasibility study. The report is scheduled to be presented to the Council on July 23. (*Communications*)

Recreation Camp Update (City Wide). The Recreation Department's Creative Adventures and Recess Summer Camps completed their third week with 53 children registered. The theme was "Sports and Games." The week's activities included Field Day, paper and pen games, relays, game challenges, crafts, a trip to Cameron Run Water Park and Long Branch Pool. Next week's theme will be "Nature." For more information about camp please contact, Carey Antoszewski, 301-891-7233. (*Recreation*)